

CLAIMS

1. Ultra opaque coated sheet, characterised in that it comprises a coloured support made from a single ply of material, the said support being coated on at least one of its faces with one or more white pigmented 5 coats.

2. Sheet according to the preceding claim, characterised in that it has an ultra opacity index of more than 92, and advantageously more than or equal to 94 10 in the case in which its grammage is less than 300 g/m<sup>2</sup> and its ultra opacity index is more than 94, and advantageously more than or equal to 98 if its grammage is greater than or equal to 300 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

15 3. Sheet according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that its whiteness measured according to standard ISO 11475 is more than 75, and preferably greater than or equal to 78.

20 4. Sheet according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the single ply of material is a paper single ply based on cellulose fibres.

25 5. Sheet according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the single-ply material is a plastic film.

6. Process for manufacturing a sheet according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that at first a coloured support is made from a single ply of material, and this support is then coated on at least one 5 of its faces with one or several white pigmented coatings.

7. Process according to the preceding claim, characterised in that the deposit of the white pigmented 10 coat(s) is made using a curtain coating head.

8. Process according to either claim 6 or 7, characterised in that the single ply of material is a paper based on cellulose fibres.

15 9. Process according to the preceding claim, characterised in that opacification is obtained by incorporating opacifying pigments in the paper bulk.

20 10. Process according to claim 8, characterised in that opacification is obtained by depositing a precoat of opacifying pigments either using a size press or using a coating device, on the paper surface.

25 11. Process according to the preceding claim, characterised in that the coating device used to deposit the precoat of opacifying pigments is a curtain coating head, and preferably the deposit is made at the same time as the surface application of the white pigmented coat(s)

described in claim 7, and using the same curtain coating head.

12. Process according to either claim 6 or 7,  
5 characterised in that the single ply of material is a coloured plastic film or a plastic film covered by a coloured opacifying precoat.

13. Process according to one of claims 6 to 12,  
10 characterised in that the colouring material used is carbon black.

14. Ultra opaque playing card obtained by the process according to one of claims 6 to 13 or using a  
15 sheet defined according to one of claims 1 to 5, as its base.